



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND
DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20231
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JAN 13 2003

Office of the Director
Group 3600

DECISION ON PETITION
TO WITHDRAW THE
HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT

Fish & Richardson PC
225 Franklin St.
Boston, MA 02210

In re Application of
George A. Provost
Application No. 08/868,762
Filed: June 4, 1997
For: HOOK FOR HOOK AND LOOP
FASTENERS

This is in response to applicant's communication filed on June 18, 2001 and supplemented on January 7, 2003, that will be treated as a petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment. The delay in treating this petition is sincerely regretted.

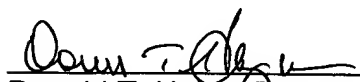
The petition is **GRANTED**.

A review of the file record indicates that a non-final rejection was mailed on January 9, 1998. A copy of a response to the above-noted Office action was submitted on June 18, 2001. Although no Notice of Abandonment has yet been mailed in this application, since no response was received until after the expiration of the six month period for response, the application is in fact abandoned. The copy of the response is being treated as a petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment.

Applicant's copy of the response includes a Certificate of Mailing bearing a mailing date of April 29, 1998. A statement by Toni M. Sousa was received within the petition, which attests to the personal knowledge under 37 CFR 1.8(b)(3) of mailing the response on the date indicated on the Certificate of Mailing. This is sufficient evidence of a timely response.

Since a timely response to the Office action was filed, the holding of abandonment is withdrawn and the application is restored to pending status. The application is being forwarded to the Supervisory Legal Instruments Examiner for entry of the response filed with the petition, and then to the Primary Examiner for prompt action on the merits of the application.

Telephone inquiries relative to this decision should be directed to Special Programs Examiner Steven Meyers at (703) 308-3868.


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